

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Washington, D.C. 20350-2000

OPNAVINST 6470.3
OP-45
10 December 1985

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 6470.3

From: Chief of Naval Operations
To: All Ships and Stations

Subj: NAVY RADIATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

Ref: (a) Executive Order 12344 of 1 February 1982, Navy Nuclear Propulsion Program

1. Purpose. To establish the Navy Radiation Safety Committee as a means for controlling the use of radioactive material within the Navy and Marine Corps.

2. Scope. This instruction applies to all Navy and Marine Corps activities engaged in the use of Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regulated byproduct material, special nuclear material, source material, and naturally occurring or accelerator-produced radioactive material. It does not apply to radioactive materials transferred from the Department of Energy (DoE) to the Department of Defense (DoD) in accordance with section 91B of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954. Nor does it apply to radioactive materials produced as a consequence of the construction, operation, servicing or maintenance of Naval nuclear propulsion plants, reference (a).

3. Discussion. The Department of the Navy has been delegated by the NRC, through the issuance of a Specific License of Broad Scope, regulatory authority for the receipt, possession, distribution, use, transportation, transfer and disposal of radioactive material at Navy and Marine Corps activities. The Navy Radiation Safety Committee is hereby established to provide administrative control of all radioactive material used in the Navy and Marine Corps except for nuclear propulsion, nuclear weapons, and certain components of weapons delivery systems. Navy Radioactive Material Permits will be utilized to maintain such control.

4. Membership. The Navy Radiation Safety Committee shall consist of:

(a) Chairman—Director, Environmental Protection, Safety and Occupational Health Division, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OP-45).

(b) Executive Secretary—Radiation Specialist (NOBC 0847) or Radiation Health Officer (NOBC 0845) assigned as OP 455.

(c) A representative from the Commander, Naval Medical Command.

(d) A representative from the Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command.

(e) Additional members shall include a representative from Headquarters, Marine Corps, as necessary for matters concerning Marine Corps activities, as well as representatives with expertise in, but not limited to, health physics, legal, medical, medical physics, radiobiology, radiopharmacy, engineering, radiography or other professional areas as necessary.

(f) The Naval Sea Systems Command Detachment, Radiological Affairs Support Office (NAVSEASYS COM-DETRASO), and the Navy Environmental Health Center (NAVENVIRHLHCEN), shall serve as technical support centers for the Navy Radiation Safety Committee.

5. Responsibilities

a. The Navy Radiation Safety Committee acting for the Chief of Naval Operations shall:

(1) Manage the Navy's Specific License of Broadscope.

(2) Maintain records under this license.

(3) Review applications for Navy Radioactive Material Permits and recommend action to be taken by the Chairman or his designated representative.

(4) Meet on at least a quarterly basis to review the activities of the Executive Secretary.

(5) Maintain a current list of quantities, uses, and locations where radioactive material is received, acquired, possessed, used, or stored.

(6) Ensure inspections are conducted to assess compliance with the provisions of the NRC license, NRC regulations and of the specific permits.

(7) Advise DCNO (Logistics) of all non-compliance items with Severity Levels I, II, or III.

(8) Provide copies of Navy Radioactive Material Permits to the NRC.

(9) Request additional members from appropriate systems commanders when necessary.

b. The Executive Secretary of the Navy Radiation Safety Committee shall:

(1) Be responsible for conducting day-to-day operations and issuing permits approved by the Chairman, Navy Radiation Safety Committee.

(2) Serve as the routine point of contact between the Department of the Navy and Nuclear Regulatory Commission for matters covered by this instruction.

c. Commander, Naval Medical Command shall:

(1) Appoint a permanent member to the Navy Radiation Safety Committee.

(2) Issue instructions and guidance to Medical Department activities concerning procedures for obtaining or amending a Navy Radioactive Material Permit.

(3) Provide management oversight of NAVEN-VIRHLTHCEN concerning the use of radioactive material at Medical Department activities.

d. Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command shall:

(1) Appoint a permanent member to the Navy Radiation Safety Committee.

(2) Issue instructions and guidance to Navy and Marine Corps activities not under the control of Commander, Naval Medical Command concerning procedures for obtaining or amending a Navy Radioactive Material Permit.

(3) Provide management oversight of NAVSEA-SYSCOMDETRASO concerning the use of radioactive material at Navy and Marine Corps activities not under the control of Commander, Naval Medical Command.

e. Technical Support Centers shall:

(1) Provide guidance to Navy and Marine Corps activities in the preparation of requests for Navy Radioactive Material Permits.

(2) Review requests for completeness and compliance with current regulations.

(3) Prepare Navy Radioactive Material Permits and forward to the Executive Secretary.

(4) Perform inspections to assess compliance with current Navy and Federal Regulations and provisions of the specific permit.

(5) Prepare reports of non-compliance and forward them to the Navy Radiation Safety Committee.

(6) Conduct technical assistance visits as necessary.

f. Commanding Officers/Officers-in-Charge shall:

(1) Comply with the conditions of specific Navy Radioactive Material Permits.

(2) Comply with instructions concerning the safe receipt, possession, distribution, use, transportation, transfer and disposal of radioactive material.

(3) Comply with Department of the Navy policy of maintaining personnel exposure as low as reasonable achievable (ALARA).

(4) Maintain an effective radiation protection program as outlined in NAVMED P-5055, Radiation Health Protection Manual and appropriate radiological control manuals.

6. Action. Navy and Marine Corps activities using radioactive material shall:

a. Continue to operate under current licensing authority until notified of the transition from NRC license to Navy Radioactive Material Permit.

b. Coordinate all questions or reports concerning radioactive material use with the Navy Radiation Safety Committee through the appropriate technical support center.

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c. Submit all requests for changes or amendments to permits to the Navy Radiation Safety Committee, via chain-of-command and appropriate technical support center, in accordance with instructions issued by Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command or Commander, Naval Medical Command. Direct transmittal to the Navy Radiation Safety Committee or the NRC is not authorized, except in emergency situations.

d. Marine Corps activities include Headquarters, Marine Corps (LMA-3) as via addressee on all correspondence.

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